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CHRONOLOGY OF INTERNATIONAL EVENTS AND DOCUMENTS

Supplement to

THE WORLD TODAY

Published twice a month by the Royal Institute of International
Affairs, Chatham House, St James's Square, London, S.W.1

Annual subscription 17s. 6d. Per copy 9d.

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ARGENTINA. 11 Oct.—The Spanish Foreign Minister, Sr Artajo, arrived on an official visit.

BELGIUM. 19 Oct.—*European Economic Co-operation*. Long-term programme (see *Benelux*).

20 Oct.—The Bill introduced by the Christian Social Party asking for a referendum on the question of King Leopold's return was defeated in the Senate by 83 for and 83 against, which meant a rejection.

BENELUX. 19 Oct.—*European Economic Co-operation*. The three Governments sent to the O.E.E.C. their long-term programme which included their convergent policy in the fields of taxation, social welfare, monetary questions, protection, and investments to enable the fulfilment of an economic union on 1 January 1950, and the maintenance of that union in normal conditions. It was pointed out that various difficulties must be solved as a result of the increasing population in the Netherlands, the loss of income from the Dutch Indies, and the decrease of Dutch and Belgian trade with Germany. Economic union would only work satisfactorily if full employment was assured in the Benelux countries as a result of the re-establishment of free trade and mutual payments. To lessen the dollar shortage, exports to the western hemisphere must increase and United States tariffs must be lowered. The countries also planned more international economic co-operation within the framework of the United Nations. The almost complete elimination of Germany as a producer and consumer had seriously affected them. The complete rehabilitation of the three countries demanded the solution of the German problem so far as circumstances permitted. Rehabilitation required the removal of all obstacles to the free exchange of goods with Germany, the restoration of natural traffic with the Ruhr basin, and the protection of property and guaranteed income from Benelux investments in Germany.

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE. 11 Oct.—The conference, attended by the Prime Ministers of Britain, Ceylon, India, Pakistan, New Zealand, the Australian Minister of External Affairs, the South African Minister of Mines and Economic Affairs, and the Canadian High Commissioner (who deputized for Mr Mackenzie King who was ill) opened in London. The Prime Minister for Southern Rhodesia attended as an observer. Sir Stafford Cripps gave a survey of Britain's economic situation.

12 Oct.—Mr Bevin gave a review of foreign affairs, and the conference discussed problems of the Middle East and Far East. The Commissioner-General for South East Asia reported on the situation in Malaya.

13 Oct.—The conference discussed the world balance of trade and the dollar deficit.

17 Oct.—Discussion with Eireann Ministers (see *Great Britain*).

18 Oct.—The acting Prime Minister of Canada, Mr St Laurent, joined the conference, which discussed closer consultation between

Commonwealth countries in international and economic affairs, and the status of High Commissioners.

19 Oct.—Mr Bevin gave a further review of foreign affairs, and the conference discussed Europe and the West. They agreed upon the importance of the maintenance and revival of democracy in Europe, and with the policy of supporting and making more effective the United Nations by all practicable means.

20 Oct.—The conference discussed defence and the maintenance of world peace. They agreed that the danger of war must be met by building up armed forces in order to deter any would-be aggressor, and that freedom must be safeguarded not only by military defensive measures but also by advancing social and economic welfare.

21 Oct.—The conference discussed the improvement and extension of methods of consultation and exchange of information between Commonwealth Governments and the precedence of High Commissioners.

BURMA. 10 Oct.—A commission of thirty members was appointed to deal with the autonomist claims of the Karens, Shans, and other minorities. Military action was reported against insurgents near Insein. Near Toungoo rail communications were severed by rebels.

CHINA. 11 Oct.—Communist forces re-occupied Chefoo, in Shantung.

Double Tenth. Gen. Chiang Kai-shek, in a speech in Peking, ascribed the deterioration in the military situation to the 'adverse psychological effects of Communist propaganda' and to the resulting indifference and carping attitude of the general public and of legislators. Complaining of false newspaper reporting, he accused Shanghai of exaggerating the seriousness of the Peking situation, whereas during his visit he had heard of only one case of a buying rush and had found the city normal. The chairman of the city council of Tsinan, Mr Pei, who had escaped before the capture of the town, said its fall was due to the poor morale of officers and men of the Nationalist garrison. He said several senior army and air force officers were in communication with the Communists and the troops had been selling military supplies to them.

19 Oct.—The Communists announced the occupation of Changchun and the capture of Gen. Tseng Tse-sheng and part of the 60th Army.

21 Oct.—The Communist radio reported the fall of Chinchow and the capture of Gen. Fan Han-chieh. Government forces claimed to have beaten back the Communist attack on the Peking-Kalang railway at Chahar. It was understood that Gen. Chiang Kai-shek was on a further visit to the north.

CUBA. 10 Oct.—Sr Carlos Prío Socarras (Autentico Party) was inaugurated President in succession to Dr Grau San Martín, who retired after a four-year term.

CYPRUS. 7 Oct.—At the detention camp near Famagusta fifteen Jews attempted to escape owing, it was believed, to Communist instigation.

8 Oct.—It was announced in the press that the R.A.F. station in the island had been raised to the status of Air Headquarters, Levant.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA. 18 Oct.—Police raided the premises of the British Information Service in Prague and arrested the Information Officer, Mr Wallis, who enjoyed diplomatic status, and also a Czechoslovak employee. The British Ambassador protested to the Prime Minister and Mr Wallis was released after questioning.

19 Oct.—The British Ambassador protested to the Government against the action of the police in entering the premises of the British Information Service and arresting the Information Officer and a Czechoslovak employee.

20 Oct.—The Government, replying to the British protest, said the Information Office had no extra-territorial status. When the police entered the premises, one of the officials on duty told them rudely to 'march' and made a remark about Czechoslovakia being a 'police State'. He then tried to hinder them in the execution of their duty whereupon 'he was requested to accompany them'. As he continued to resist he was taken to a car, where he struck the driver and broke a window. When the police discovered he was a diplomatic official they immediately apologized and released him. He also apologized to the police and voluntarily signed a document to the effect that he had not disclosed his identity before arriving at police headquarters. The police stated that the Czechoslovak employee was not engaged on his official duties but was writing a letter to an illegal group abroad.

DENMARK. 15 Oct.—Defence talks (*see Scandinavian Conference*).

17 Oct.—*South Schleswig*. Prime Minister in London (*see Great Britain*).

EGYPT. 12 Oct.—*Palestine*. The Government recognized the Arab Government at Gaza (*see p. 659*).

EIRE. 9 Oct.—De Valera campaign against partition (*see Great Britain*).

17 Oct.—Ministers' meeting with Commonwealth Prime Ministers (*see Great Britain*).

18 Oct.—*British Commonwealth*. The Minister for Defence, Dr O'Higgins, said that the Government believed the Commonwealth was one of the greatest world factors for good, and that the repeal of the External Relations Act would bring Eire and the Commonwealth countries closer together. 'We did not approach this in any spirit of hostility. If I were an Englishman I should consider the Act an insult to the King. There is no question of relations between Eire and the British Commonwealth being disrupted.'

EMPIRE PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE. 19 Oct.—The conference, attended by delegates from thirty-six Parliaments of the Commonwealth, opened in London. The Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations, Mr Noel-Baker, said that 490 million out of the

550 million persons in the Commonwealth were fully self-governing, whereas in 1908 not more than 10 per cent of the total population was fully self-governing. As a result of the principle of expanding Parliamentary government the Commonwealth was far stronger now than it was then. The conference discussed immigration and the distribution of populations.

20 Oct.—The conference discussed the future of Parliamentary government.

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION. 13 Oct.—Four-Year Plan (*see Great Britain*).

16 Oct.—The Council met in Paris and the intra-European payments agreement (*see p. 604*) was signed. The recovery plan for the year 1 July 1948 to 30 June 1948, to be carried out with the estimated U.S. aid of \$4,875 million, was handed to Mr Harriman.

21 Oct.—The Administrator, Mr Hoffman, told the press in Paris, that he had been favourably impressed by the progress achieved in all branches of European economic co-operation. In reply to a French questioner he denied that the E.C.A. was imposing *dirigisme* on Europe. The four-year programme should make for the greatest freedom of exchange. The intra-European payments agreement was a great step forward in this direction. Asked whether rearmament measures would not interfere with the Marshall plan he replied that a balance had to be struck between the needs of security and of economic recovery: that the two aims were not self-contradictory; and that the problem was the same for Europe and for the U.S.A.

FRANCE. 8 Oct.—*Labour Unrest*. The Government issued an order requisitioning workers to tend fires of coking ovens which if allowed to go out would take up to three months to get into working order again. At Micheville steel works, near Nancy, some 160 police who had compelled recalcitrant railway workers to leave the cokeries were attacked by strikers who overwhelmed them and drove them out of the cokeries. The strikers stated they would not keep the fires going. Merchant seamen staged a one-day strike, and more railwaymen went on strike.

The Government stated that because of the fall in coal production winter rationing of electricity would start for factories on 11 October.

9 Oct.—*Labour Unrest*. The Prime Minister broadcast an appeal to the strikers to listen to the language of reason, and said the Government would use all necessary means to put an end to an agitation which was taking on the character of an 'insurrection'. Clashes with the police at Nancy led to some people being injured when demonstrators tried to re-occupy the railway station.

Wages and Prices. The Cabinet extended to Civil servants the 15 per cent wage increase, and prepared cuts in Government expenditure.

10 Oct.—*Labour Unrest*. M. Moch, Minister of the Interior, told the national council of the Socialist Party that just before his death Zhdanov had sent instructions to the French Communist Party to

'sabotage' Marshall aid by operations to begin by the end of September. A few days later a report had gone back to the Cominform that everything was ready for that date. At the meeting of the Cominform leaders held at the opening of the U.N. Assembly in Paris an order was given to the French C.P. to do everything in its power to prevent the possibility of war against the U.S.S.R. and make every effort to stop the military recovery of France. By strikes, economic activity was to be paralysed as far as possible 'so as to create in Paris the same situation as at Prague'. The Cominform had apparently endorsed the cost to the C.G.T. of the coal and dock strikes and many meetings were held between the Cominform leaders and those of the French C.P.

M. Benoît-Frachon, secretary-general of the C.G.T. told the Congress of that body that his policy of national salvation included: 1. getting rid of the burden of the Marshall Plan; 2. carrying out a recovery programme; 3. denouncing the military agreements, 'which make the western bloc into a war machine against the U.S.S.R.'; 4. restoring peace-time economic relations with the U.S.S.R. and the popular democracies; 5. dissolving the Gaullist movement, etc.

12 Oct.—*European Recovery Programme*. M. Schuman received Mr Hoffman.

Wages and Prices. Control on meat prices was reimposed.

Labour Unrest. Some railwaymen returned to work. The Communist Party and the C.G.T. described as pure fantasy M. Moch's statement that the strikes were organized by the Cominform.

13 Oct.—*Labour Unrest*. The Government reached a settlement with the Lorraine iron and steel workers. More railwaymen returned to work. Dockers staged a one-day strike.

Reparations. The Government announced their willingness to reconsider the dismantling of particular factories or plant; but said they were 'acting in close solidarity with the British Government', and were anxious to see the programme agreed upon by the allies carried out as promptly as possible. They would admit exceptions only in so far as the disadvantages of dismantling have been proved in special cases.

Mr Horner, secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, who was attending a C.G.T. conference as a fraternal delegate, said: 'I am sure that our miners in England who know well the conditions of the French miners will be ready to support the [miners'] strike.'

14 Oct.—*Labour Unrest*. Paris taxi-drivers returned to work after an eight-day strike.

15 Oct.—*Labour Unrest*. Men in the Lorraine iron mines and steel works returned to work. Strikers in a car factory in Bordeaux occupied the factory in defiance of a Government order. The C.G.T. ordered a general strike of metal workers in the district in sympathy and some 40 per cent of the workers came out. It was learned that the miners had received money from Polish, Belgian, and Italian miners' federations in support of their strike.

The Cabinet decided to enforce a law passed in October 1946 which provided for sentences of hard labour and, in certain cases, the death penalty for convictions on charges of trafficking in food-ration coupons;

sale, or possession with a view to sale, of foodstuffs known to be dangerous to the public health; sale of foodstuffs at unlawful prices or incitement to such sale; or unlawful action aimed at producing a scarcity of cattle or foodstuffs or at destroying harvests or crops.

Statement by President of N.U.M. (see *Great Britain*).

The Prime Minister of India, Mr Nehru, arrived in Paris. He later saw Mr Marshall.

16 Oct.—The President received Mr Nehru, who was later received by M. Schuman.

Monetary Change. The Government announced the modification of the existing foreign currency exchange arrangements in such a way as to restore between the various exchange rates the official parities approved by the International Monetary Fund. The mean dollar rate would be 264 f., and the pound sterling would be worth 1,061 f.

17 Oct.—Mr Nehru saw Mr Vyshinsky and later the U.N. Secretary-General.

18 Oct.—*Labour Unrest.* The C.G.T. ordered that security teams should be withdrawn from the mines. The Government called on workers to maintain the services. At St Etienne the many men who turned out for the duty were stopped by strike pickets and the pits had to be taken over by the police.

19 Oct.—*Labour Unrest.* At Le Forest miners affiliated to a *Force Ouvrière* union tried to carry out maintenance work but were fought off by strike pickets. In the Lorraine pits 40 per cent of the miners were back at work.

20 Oct.—*Indo-China.* M. Léon Pignon was appointed High Commissioner in succession to M. Bollaert.

Labour Unrest. In the Loire area, near St Etienne, police raided several pits and dispersed the pickets. At Carmaux, near Albi, strikers evicted police from pitheads and pumping installations. The C.G.T. called a one-day sympathy strike of railway workers in the Marseilles area. At a pit near Lille strikers assaulted a police inspector and some engineers whom they had allowed to go into the mine to inspect damage.

The Minister of Industry and Commerce, M. Lacoste, announced that the only aim of the Government police measures was to save the mines from damage. The Government would not yield to blackmail and had stocks of coal for many weeks. This was the first time in a French labour conflict that the unions had given orders to suspend maintenance and safety measures in the mines. In spite of the efforts of the police, eight pits, representing a daily output of 8,500 tons, had been flooded out. In all, the loss of production was about 160,000 tons a day, and the total already amounted to 1,950,000 tons. In 1938 it had required the work of 390 men to extract 1,000 tons of coal; the number now required was 610. Absenteeism had doubled. An increase of output to the 1938 level would provide the mines with 48,000 million francs more revenue, with which much could be done. He reaffirmed that the Government could not discuss the withdrawal of its decrees on economies in the mines, but promised that if the safety of the mines were once more

assured he 'would not refuse conversations with the C.G.T. so as to keep myself informed of their intentions'.

21 Oct.—*Labour Unrest.* At Béthune, where strikers had been arrested for breaches of the peace, demonstrators surrounded the police station and smashed the windows. Later, accompanied by a Communist member of the Upper House, demonstrators seized the Sous-Préfet and dragged him to the law courts, apparently in order to obtain the release of the strikers. He was freed by the police after half-an-hour's fighting. After the police had occupied the principal pit at La Grand'Combe, in the Cevennes, 1,000 miners attacked them and forced them to withdraw, in spite of the use of tear gas. A few of the police were kept prisoner and thirty were injured. Similar incidents were reported from Alès.

Round St Etienne the police occupied more pits and successfully resisted 'counter-attacks' in force. An official statement summed up the situation in the St Etienne region in the following figures: 61 per cent of the total coal productive capacity had been saved; 8 per cent could be saved after a few weeks' work; 31 per cent would be under water for months. The flooding would cause the loss of 360,000 tons of coal and would throw 6,000 miners out of work. According to another statement, ten pits altogether had been completely flooded since the strike began. They were all in southern and central France. The task of pumping one pit dry in the Carmaux region and repairing the damage to coke ovens was estimated at the equivalent of £2 million.

GERMANY. 8 Oct.—*Berlin.* It was announced that on 1 November rations in the western Sectors would be increased by about 200 calories a day.

10 Oct.—*Soviet Zone.* The German Economic Commission issued its report on conditions in the Soviet Zone to show where it was 'necessary to intervene immediately to remove existing shortages and bottle-necks'. The iron and steel industry had fallen far short of the targets set, and in machinery construction the July and August quotas could not be met because of lack of materials, but imports from the U.S.S.R., Poland, and Czechoslovakia had raised output in September. The chemical industry was hampered by lack of raw materials, and by the fact that the initiative of the management, workers, and office employees was still not sufficiently developed.

11 Oct.—*Ruhr.* Gen. Robertson, the British Military Governor, speaking at Essen to leaders of both sides of the coal industry, said that ownership of the mines was in suspense, as he had only taken over custody as C.-in-C. Both he and Gen. Clay felt that a decision on the ownership, which affected the whole future of Germany, could not be taken by Military Government or locally, but must be taken by the people of the country. It must therefore await the emergence of a representative, freely elected German Government. The sole condition was that there should be no restoration of the former pattern of ownership. Coal was still the answer not only to Germany's prosperity, but to

the economic recovery of Europe as a whole. In the Ruhr output was 300,000 tons a day, and the target for the end of 1949 was 350,000 tons.

Dr Arnold, Minister-President of North Rhine-Westphalia said another 200,000 workers were needed to make use of the full capacity of the Ruhr, half of them in the mines.

Gen. Clay said that 62 per cent of the factories in the U.S. Zone affected by dismantling were now employed on other work.

Two protests were made to the Russian air safety centre against the action of a Yak fighter which performed aerobatics within 100 ft of a Dakota on the air route to Hamburg.

13 Oct.—*Berlin.* The *Magistrat* met in the *Neues Stadthaus*. The Labour Officer, Hr Schmidt (Socialist Unity) whom the *Magistrat* had dismissed several days previously, attended and refused to leave when asked to do so. The meeting was adjourned, and the non-Communist members later met in the British Sector.

15 Oct.—*Berlin.* Soviet forces shelled a target in the air corridor. *Soviet Zone.* It was understood that an extensive reorganization of the police force was taking place. An extensive purge of the existing force—some reports put dismissals at 30 per cent—was in progress, and semi-militarized units composed of former P.o.W.s were being built up.

18 Oct.—*Foreign Trade.* An agreement was signed in Berlin for the fusion of the foreign trade of the French Zone with that of the Bizone.

Soviet Zone. Reports stated that Gen. von Seydlitz, who was associated with Field-Marshal Paulus in the launching of the 'Free Germany' movement after the battle for Stalingrad in 1942, and Generals Lattmann, von Lenski, and Müller were associated with the reorganization of the police.

British Zone. The results of the local elections in North Rhine-Westphalia showed that, compared with those in 1946, the Communists had lost some 278,000 votes, and that in some areas, notably in the Ruhr, their losses were between 50 and 60 per cent.

Field Marshal von Brauchitsch died in the British military hospital in Hamburg.

British Zone. The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr Mayhew, arrived in Dusseldorf.

19 Oct.—*Soviet Zone.* It was learned that in a recent speech Hr Fischer, the president of the central administration of the interior, said that the purge of non-Communists from the police forces was now complete, and that the cadres remaining would be extended and brought up to establishment by 1 November. The figure he was reported to have given was 400,000 men—one to every 43 persons in the population of the Zone. The aim was to provide a concentrated, effective striking force which could maintain 'law and order' and as required could take over various duties from the occupying Power.

Soviet Zone. Measures directed against the 'looting of the Soviet Zone by western Powers' were announced. All transit traffic from one part of the Soviet Zone to another was forbidden to pass through Berlin. All roads from *Land Brandenburg* into the city would be under intensified police control, and vehicles with food and consumer goods would use only

those roads which led into the Soviet sector. There would also be a stricter control of trains, barges, and passenger steamers.

20 Oct.—*Berlin*. Gen. Kotikov, in reply to a letter from Dr Friedensburg, stated that he would permit city elections to be carried out in the Soviet Sector on 5 December on four conditions: (1) All democratic institutions illegally prohibited in the western sectors of Berlin, such as the Free German Trade Union Association, the Kulturbund (the Society for the Cultural Rehabilitation of Germany), and the People's Congress for unity and a just peace, must be recognized immediately. (2) The persecution of all persons belonging to democratic bodies, imprisoned on account of their membership of these bodies, must be suspended immediately. All persons arrested because they stood for the unity of Germany and a just peace must also be released forthwith. The same applied to members of the Free German Youth Organization and the Socialist Unity Party imprisoned for their political activities. (3) All military and Fascist organizations in Berlin must be disbanded immediately, all military and Fascist propaganda in the press forbidden, all warmongers deleted from the electoral lists. (4) The unity of all communal organs must be ensured immediately and also the unity of the Berlin police after a thorough purge of Fascist and militaristic elements. The city budget as well as the city economy must be applied to the whole of Berlin forthwith.

21 Oct.—*Berlin*. Dr Friedensburg said that the Soviet conditions for the elections were unacceptable and that Gen. Kotikov's letter constituted a refusal to permit elections in the Soviet Sector. Referring to the General's demand that all people imprisoned in the western sectors for their political activities should be released immediately, he said that for every one political prisoner in western Berlin there were at least 100 imprisoned in the Soviet Sector. He fully agreed with the demand that all militaristic and Fascist organizations in Berlin should be disbanded. The only trouble was that there were no such bodies. 'There are more Nazis among the Russians than among the members of the Berlin city administration.' He was willing to purge the Berlin police of all Fascist and militaristic elements, but there was only one such element in the Berlin police known to him: Soviet-appointed east Sector police chief Markgraf.

GREAT BRITAIN. 8 Oct.—*Defence*. Gen. Slim was appointed C.I.G.S., in succession to Lord Montgomery (*see p. 686*).

Sir Stafford Cripps returned from Canada and the U.S.A.

Spain. The Government, commenting on reports in the Spanish press, informed the Spanish Chargé d'Affaires that they had had no part in the preparation of the agreement, which they had received from Spanish Socialists in Paris (*see p. 648*).

9 Oct.—*Eire*. Mr de Valera, opening in Liverpool his campaign against the partition of Ireland, said that only in Antrim and Belfast was there a local majority against union. The people of Ireland were prepared to allow the existing Parliament of Northern Ireland as a

local Parliament, with the transfer to an all-Ireland Parliament of the powers now reserved to Westminster.

Churchill Speech. Addressing the Conservative Conference at Llandudno, Mr Churchill said they were confronted with the deadly enmity and continued aggression of the Russian Government. The U.N. Assembly had been reduced to a mere cockpit in which representatives of mighty nations hurled reproaches, taunts, and recriminations at one another. Russia's forces in Europe far exceeded those of all the western countries put together. Even if an arrangement or compromise of some sort were reached over the question of Berlin, the fundamental antagonisms would still remain. The fourteen men in the Kremlin, 'who rule nearly 300 million human beings with an arbitrary authority never possessed by any Tsar since Ivan the Terrible and who are now holding down nearly half Europe by Communist methods, these men dread the friendship of the free civilized world almost as much as they would its hostility', and 'we should not delude ourselves with the vain expectation of a change of heart in the ruling forces of Communist Russia'.

It was his belief that, at present, the only sure foundation of peace and of the prevention of actual war rested upon strength. If it were not for America's stocks of atomic bombs there would be no means of stopping the subjugation of western Europe by Communist machinations backed by Russian armies. He was quite sure that if the U.S.A. were to consent, in reliance on any paper agreement, to destroy the stocks of atomic bombs they had accumulated they would be guilty of murdering human freedom and committing suicide themselves. 'Nothing stands between Europe today and complete subjugation to Communist tyranny but the atomic bomb in American possession.' If the Soviet Government wished to see atomic energy internationalized and its military use outlawed, it was not only by verbal or written agreements that they must reassure the world, but by actions. 'Let them', he said, 'retire to their own country, which is one-sixth of the land surface of the globe. Let them liberate by their departure the eleven ancient capitals of eastern Europe . . . Let them go back to the Curzon line, as was agreed upon in the days when we were fighting as comrades together. Let them set free the million or more German and Japanese prisoners they now hold as slaves. Let them cease to oppress, torment, and exploit the immense parts of Germany and Austria which are now in their hands.'

The lifting of their blockade of Berlin would be merely the stopping of blackmail; there should be no reward for that. 'Let them liberate the Communist-held portion of Korea. Let them cease to foment the hideous protracted civil war in China. Above all, let them throw open their vast regions on equal terms to the ordinary travel and traffic of mankind. Let them give others the chance to breathe freely, and let them breathe freely themselves. . . . Let the Russians be content to live on their own and cease to darken the world and prevent its recovery by these endless threats, intrigues, and propaganda. When they have done this or even some of it, and given proofs of good faith and given up what they had no right to take, then indeed it will be time to raise the question of putting away the one vast, and, I believe, sure and overwhelming means

of security which remains in the hands of the United States for the protection of mankind.'

They had not got a limitless period of time before them, 'we ought to bring matters to a head and make a final settlement'.

There now existed three great circles among the free nations: the British Commonwealth and Empire, the English-speaking world, centring upon the United States, and United Europe. If these three majestic circles were linked together there was no force or combination which could overthrow them, or even challenge them effectively. Britain was the only country which had a great part in every one of them; 'we stand in fact at the very point of junction, and here in this island at the centre of the seaways and perhaps of the airways also, we have the opportunity of joining them all together. If we rise to the occasion in the years to come we may well once again hold the key to opening a safe and happy future for humanity and gaining for ourselves gratitude and fame'.

10 Oct.—*Malaya*. Mr Malcolm MacDonald arrived in London. He stated that the disorders in Malaya did not in any way represent a national movement; on the contrary, almost all the people—the Malays, the Indians, and the vast majority of the Chinese—were supporting the Government. All were strongly hostile to the Communists, who were almost entirely a movement of a minority of the Chinese. Most of them were comparatively recent immigrants.

11 Oct.—*Germany*. The Government published as a White Paper (Cmd 7534) their account of the events leading up to the reference of the Berlin question to the United Nations. It began by summarizing the effects of the failure to reach agreement in Moscow. 'The result has been to make it clear that the Soviet Government has no intention of reaching an agreement, save on its own terms, the acceptance of which would have meant the immediate or progressive absorption of the western Sectors of Berlin within the Soviet Zone economy and the whittling away of the rights and obligations of the western occupying Powers to a point at which the whole city of Berlin was under exclusive Soviet domination. The blockade has been maintained throughout the talks, while the Soviet authorities in Berlin have tolerated attempts by minority groups sympathetic to their aims to overthrow the legal municipal government of the city, constituted by democratic elections under four-Power supervision. It is thus clear that the Soviet Government intend to exact as a price for lifting their unlawful blockade of Berlin, abandonment by the Governments of the United Kingdom, the U.S.A., and France of their rights in Berlin as occupying Powers.' Hence the appeal to the United Nations.

The White Paper then set out the legal basis of the Allied occupation and of four-Power control, the basis of Allied policy, and the circumstances of the failure of four-Power control. On this last subject it stated: 'While, owing to the Soviet attitude towards freedom of movement, knowledge of conditions in the Soviet Zone only reaches the world with difficulty, it became clear over a period of time that, quite apart from their infringements of the Potsdam economic principles, the

Soviet authorities were violating in their Zone the fundamental personal and political freedoms prescribed by the Potsdam Agreement. Within the Soviet Zone the population are not accorded freedom of speech or of information. The judiciary is not independent, and thousands of people, including children, have been arbitrarily arrested and confined in concentration camps within the Soviet Zone or transported to the U.S.S.R. Skilled workers have also been forcibly removed to the U.S.S.R. In addition, the Soviet authorities have used pressure and discrimination against all political parties who oppose the Socialist Unity party, which is under Communist control. At the same time, the Soviet Government embarked upon a carefully planned propaganda campaign designed to divert attention from those malpractices or infringements of four-Power agreements which the Soviet authorities were committing, or proposed to commit, and to persuade public opinion by a process of reiteration that it was France, the United Kingdom, and the U.S.A. who had broken the economic and political principles of the Yalta and Potsdam Agreements and the agreement on control machinery.

The character of the differences that had arisen between the four Powers was further exemplified in the Soviet Government's pursuit of its claim to participate in the control of the Ruhr, even in the absence of economic unity. This particular demand was first advanced by Generalissimo Stalin and M. Molotov at the Potsdam Conference, but it proved impossible to reach agreement upon it. H.M. Government declined to enter into such a commitment without consultation with the French Government, which was not represented at the conference but which was directly concerned. Moreover, with the transfer to provisional Polish administration of the German Silesian territory, the second largest industrial concentration in Germany was withdrawn from the scope of any possible measure of four-Power control and subjected wholly to Soviet influence. The Soviet Government refused to fulfil its obligations to maintain German economic unity, so that the industrial areas of Saxony and Thuringia were also outside four-Power control. H.M. Government refused to accept any special régime involving participation by the Soviet Government in the administration of the Ruhr unless, reciprocally, four-Power control were to be extended to the rest of German industry. In the absence of such reciprocal concession, and in the light of the Soviet attitude to the European Recovery Plan, it became clear that the Soviet claim to participate in the control of the Ruhr was, in fact, a claim to be allowed to sabotage the recovery of western Europe.

The White Paper then detailed the events in the blockade of Berlin and dealt finally with the course of discussions between representatives of the three western Powers and the Soviet Government in Moscow, and between the military commanders in Berlin.

Conference of Prime Ministers (*see British Commonwealth Conference*).

12 Oct.—*South Africa*. The Minister of Economic Affairs, Mr Louw, said in a broadcast that South Africa shared with Britain and with the other Dominions a common interest and concern in the welfare

and future of western Europe. It was a matter of concern to all of them—and to the U.S.A.—that western Europe, including Germany, should be preserved from the onslaught of Communism.

13 Oct.—*Reparations*. Mr Bevin received Mr Hoffman.

Four-Year Plan of Production and Investment. It was learned that the Government, in their statement to the European Economic Co-operation Organization on their plans up to 1952, included the following production targets and capital investments: Agriculture: investment £500 million; production, increase of 20 per cent. Coal mining: £120 million; increase of 16 per cent to 225 million tons a year. Steel: £150 million (this was the remaining part of the £200 million post-war steel plan); production to reach 17 million tons. Chemicals: £200 million. Shipping: Merchant fleet to be increased 10 per cent to 17½ million tons. Oil Refineries: £100 million, increased output of 450 per cent, amounting to 24½ million tons crude oil. Electricity: £400 million, generating capacity to be increased by 50 per cent. Housing: £1,000 million for 800,000 houses. The plan would cost over £3,000 million.

Statement by the N.U.M. Secretary Mr Horner (*see France*).

14 Oct.—*Power Conflict*. Mr Bevin, speaking in London, said the key to the question as to whether the world would have peace for a hundred years was in the great problem of the Indian Ocean—the Middle East, Pakistan, India, and Ceylon. 'I am not going to worry about our relations with Russia. If I cannot get agreement, the issue that has to be settled is "Can we live together?" They are expansionists. They are the last of the imperialist races—as imperialist as the Tsar ever was. We have ceased to be an imperialist race—we dominate nobody. We seek no power; we have no desire to upset their system, but we must resist any attempt on their part to destroy our liberties. If we cannot fix agreement with our neighbours, at least let them keep on their side of the garden wall; let them enjoy their lives in their own way. But equally, if they seek to disturb us, they must not be annoyed if we are upset by their intervention and defend ourselves. What I want to do is to build solidly with Belgium, Holland, Luxemburg, France, and probably other countries, with the great Middle East, Pakistan, India, South Africa, and South-east Asia, consolidating all the resources, desires, and political emancipation, not under domination from the United Kingdom, but by coalescing all the elements and constitutional considerations on a great understandable and almost unwritten basis upon which Britain has developed.'

15 Oct.—*Rumania*. British subject sentenced (*see Rumania*).

The president of the National Union of Mineworkers, Mr Lawther, commenting on a statement made in France to a C.G.T. conference by the N.U.M. Secretary, Mr Horner, said: 'I regard the present situation in France, including the strike in the mining industry, as a Communist-inspired movement to sabotage the recovery of that country . . . in line with the policy of the Cominform. The decision of the N.U.M. to send Mr Horner to the conference as their fraternal delegate required of him the carrying of a message based upon union policy, the logical outcome of which must be to secure the co-operation of all European

mineworkers in the task of rehabilitation. He was not entitled to support the policy of the Communist Party, which is absolutely contrary to the policy of the N.U.M., the T.U.C., and the Labour Government.'

17 Oct.—*South Schleswig*. The Danish Prime Minister, Mr Rasmussen, arrived in London with a Parliamentary delegation of all parties.

18 Oct.—*Eire*. Statement on the Commonwealth (*see Eire*).

21 Oct.—*European Economic Co-operation*. The Government published as a White Paper (Cmd. 7575) their economic plans for the first year of the aid programme.

GREECE. 12 Oct.—The Politburo of the Communist Party announced through the Markos radio the dismissal of the Athens committee of the party for having proved unequal to the revolutionary tasks assigned it.

17 Oct.—Mr Marshall arrived in Athens and saw the Prime Minister, Mr Sophoulis and the acting Foreign Minister, Mr Stephanopoulos.

19 Oct.—Mr Porphyrogenis, Minister of Justice in the Markos 'Cabinet', who was on a visit to Czechoslovakia, told the press in Prague that the B.B.C. correspondent who had been captured by Markos forces on 11 October would be released within a week, after being 'educated' by the Communists.

HUNGARY. 18 Oct.—*Nationalization of Schools*. It was learned that in the past month some ten priests had been arrested for inciting their congregations against the State.

19 Oct.—*Purges*. The Ministry of Justice published a list of 101 judges and public prosecutors who had been dismissed and 67 who had been transferred. It was understood that during the past two months 200 of the 700 employees of the Ministry of Industry had been dismissed; 18 professors from the University of Agricultural Science had been dismissed or retired, five from the Faculty of Law, and four from the Academy of Music. It was learned that the Communists had closed their lists for six months to make a thorough examination of the whole party. Some members were to be excluded, others 'reclassified' as applicants. A similar purge was being made in the Peasant Party, and some 10,000 of its 18,000 members in Budapest had been excluded.

INDIA. 12 Oct.—*Kashmir*. An extraordinary session of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference under the presidency of Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah, the Prime Minister, unanimously ratified a resolution recommending Kashmir's 'final accession' to India.

INDONESIA. 8 Oct. Communist forces tried to overthrow the local Government at Tjepoe and set fire to oil refineries.

Agreement reached (*see Netherlands*).

10 Oct.—Government forces recaptured Tjepoe, in north-central Java. Some 30,000 refugees were reported to be moving towards Bodjonegoro.

12 Oct.—Government forces captured Alimin, a Communist leader.

14 Oct.—Resignation of Dr van Mook (*see Netherlands*).

17 Oct.—A Government spokesman said that troops had captured several villages south-west of Madiun, and that the insurrection had been virtually suppressed.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RINDERPEST. 19 Oct.—A conference of delegates from Britain, France, Belgium, and their African dependencies, and also from Portugal, South Africa, Rhodesia, and other African countries met in Nairobi to study methods of eradicating the cattle disease, rinderpest.

IRAQ. 12 Oct.—*Palestine*. The Government recognized the Arab Government (*see p. 659*).

ITALY. 15 Oct.—*Foreign Policy*. Count Sforza, speaking in the Senate, said that the neutrality and isolation favoured by the Communists would not save Italian soil in case of war, and Italy must therefore not adopt an ostrich-like policy. While he could not yet reveal details of the Italian plan, it did not conflict with the projected French plan for a development of the Brussels Pact, with the British draft plan for a European 'third force,' or with the American scheme for full European economic and political collaboration. Referring to Trieste, he said that the Government felt so sure that it would return to Italy that he wished to declare that when it came under Italian sovereignty again Italy's aim would be to make it a free centre first and foremost for all economic, industrial, and shipping needs of its neighbouring countries, such as Yugoslavia, and also for every other country which might be interested in using the port.

16 Oct.—*Labour Unrest*. At Pistoia police clashed with workers protesting against the discharge of some 500 labourers from a local factory. The police fired on the crowd to disperse it and one demonstrator was killed and three wounded.

18 Oct.—Mr Marshall arrived in Rome and was received by President Einaudi, Count Sforza, and Sr de Gasperi.

19 Oct.—*Trade Unions*. A new union, to be known as the L.C.G.I.L., or Italian Free General Confederation of Workers, was formed (*see p. 556*), with Sr Pastore, the Catholic Labour leader as secretary-general. It claimed to represent the free trade unions of 81 of the 90 Italian provinces. Its provisional statute provided that any strike must be preceded by a referendum among the workers.

JAPAN. 14 Oct.—*Government Changes*. The Diet elected Mr Shigeru Yoshida Prime Minister.

19 Oct.—*Government Changes*. A new Government was formed: Democratic-Liberal: Prime Minister, Foreign Minister, and Attorney-General, Mr Yoshida; Finance and Director of the Economic Stabilization Board, Mr Sanroku Izumiyama; Welfare, Mr Joji Hayashi; Agriculture and Forestry, Mr Hideo Sudo; Commerce and Industry, Mr Shinzo Oya; Labour, Mr Kaneshichi Masuda; Communications,

Mr Tokuya Furihata. Conservative: Education, Mr Yasumaro Shimojo.

21 Oct.—The Prime Minister told allied correspondents that it would probably be difficult to maintain internal security in Japan after a peace treaty was signed unless 'a considerable number of allied troops were maintained here'. He did not think the present police force was adequate, but was of the opinion that an increase in strength was unnecessary so long as occupation forces were here. He did not contemplate for the time being asking headquarters for permission to increase the number of police. If conditions at the time of the signing of a peace treaty were as they were now he would desire that some of the occupation forces should remain. He was concerned about the external security of the country, but as Japan had renounced the maintenance of armed forces he was not considering the problem in concrete terms. His Government were studying a plan for the formation of a committee on un-Japanese activities, by which he meant activities of the extreme left. So far as the revision of the National Public Service Bill was concerned, he felt the real problem was how to find new sources of revenue with which to pay Government workers higher wages. The Government might have to sell 'some of its property'. He wanted to see Japan return to a free economy as soon as possible. He himself wished to dissolve the Diet after certain necessary Bills had been passed, but no one (including himself) wanted a general election because of the great expenditure involved.

KOREA. 15 Oct.—Statement by Dr Rhee (*see U.S.A.*).

19 Oct.—*Northern Zone*. The withdrawal of Soviet troops began.

Southern Zone. Some 2,500 members of the constabulary at Yosu and other places in the south revolted, and attacked the police station at Yosu, capturing arms and ammunition, and later marched on Suncun, twenty miles away. Reports from Chunji, in North Chulla Province, said that Communist groups were causing widespread disorder in the city. A plot to assassinate Dr Rhee was discovered and nine men arrested. Martial law was proclaimed. The U.S. commander of the southern zone, Gen. Coulter, said the rebellion was an internal affair and his troops would not interfere except to protect U.S. property.

20 Oct.—*Southern Zone*. Rebels seized the railway centre of Sunchun.

21 Oct.—*Southern Zone*. Fighting was reported from Kurye, fifty miles north-west of Yosu. The main body of the rebels was estimated at some 4,000.

Gen. Coulter said that Korean officials believed that the revolt was caused primarily by a dissident group of forty constabularymen who objected to being sent to Cheju—to the island where Communist disturbances had already been reported. These dissidents were then joined by civilian Communists, 'who are quick to exploit any disorder.'

President Rhee returned from a visit to Gen. MacArthur in Tokyo.

LEBANON. 10 Oct.—Agreement on Jews (*see Syria*).

14 Oct.—*Palestine*. The Government recognized the Arab Government.

LUXEMBOURG. 19 Oct.—*European Economic Co-operation*. Long-term programme (see *Benelux*).

MALAYA. 8 Oct.—The C.-in-C. Far East Land Forces, Gen. Ritchie, visited estates in Ulu Selangor. There were further ambushes and attacks on estates and three persons were killed in the incidents.

10 Oct.—Statement by Commissioner-General (see *Great Britain*).

12 Oct.—Forces completed operations lasting a month around the village of Poh Lee Sen, north of Johore Bahru, which they burned down, and found large stocks of ammunition, food, and equipment.

13 Oct.—Aircraft attacked terrorists in Perak. Troops followed up the attack and destroyed a camp equipped for thirty men.

14 Oct.—Terrorists killed two Chinese near Muar, Johore, a rice planter in the Sitiawan district of Perak, and a Chinese in the Mentakab district of Pahang.

15 Oct.—Terrorists murdered the British assistant manager of a Pahang estate.

16 Oct.—Troops found a terrorist armament workshop in the Bidor area of Perak. Forces operating in Sungei Siput area of Perak burned down some 100 huts and evicted 500 squatters who had been feeding terrorist gangs. Terrorists murdered two Chinese near Kajang in Selangor.

18 Oct.—Sir Henry Gurney conferred with Perak planters. Terrorists ambushed a lorry and killed 3 persons near Kuala Lipis.

19 Oct.—Terrorists attacked and set fire to the railway station at Rimba Panjang, north of Ipoh, and did widespread damage to communications in that area.

20 Oct.—Terrorists murdered two British planters near Muar, Johore.

21 Oct.—Terrorists further damaged communications north of Ipoh. Troops swept an area around Serendah, north of Kuala Lumpur.

NETHERLANDS. 8 Oct.—*Indonesia*. It was officially announced that in connection with U.S. plan for settlement of the Indonesian dispute (see p. 651) the Government considered that general elections should not be held at once but would only be possible when law and order had been so far restored that the population could go to the polls without fear of reprisals.

14 Oct.—*East Indies*. The Lt-Governor-General, Dr van Mook resigned.

19 Oct.—*European Economic Co-operation*. Long-term programme (see *Benelux*).

NORWAY. 15 Oct.—Defence talks (see *Scandinavian Conference*).

PALESTINE. 8 Oct.—*Kidnapped Britons*. Mr Sylvester (see pp. 497 and 539) was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment for publishing information calculated to be useful to the enemies of Israel and operating a wireless transmitter without licence.

9 Oct.—Stern Gang terrorists overpowered the guard at Jaffa gaol and

broke out and over 100 escaped. Some eighty more who remained on the spot but outside the gaol told the press that they 'just wanted to prove that there are no walls which can hold us'. At the end of the day forty men were unaccounted for, and 150 were moved to Acre prison. The Israeli army cordoned off the area, but for seven hours did not venture near the gaol.

10 Oct.—Reports stated that the Egyptians had bombed and shelled Israeli settlements and military positions in the Negeb, and shelled two villages west of the Ramallah-Latron road. The U.N. truce supervisory board in Haifa called for an immediate cease-fire, and sent a team to investigate the fighting. The Israeli Government informed the board that it would not accept its decisions on truce violations unless Israeli army representatives were first allowed to answer charges.

12 Oct.—Recognition of Arab Government (*see Egypt and Iraq*).

15 Oct.—Discussion at United Nations (*see General Assembly*).

Israel. The Government ordered a black-out throughout Israel. Official reports from Tel Aviv stated that south of Karatiya, in the Negeb, Egyptian forces had attacked an Israeli convoy and aircraft had machine-gunned transport. Israeli aircraft attacked Gaza.

16 Oct.—The U.N. truce advisory board ordered a cease-fire in the Negeb. The Israeli Government said that operations there would not be suspended until full guarantees had been received from the United Nations that traffic in the Negeb would be allowed to pass unmolested by the Egyptians and that further attacks would cease. The Egyptian reply said that fighting would stop only after the Israeli forces had returned to their original positions. The Chief of Staff of the U.N. mission stated that the matter had been referred to Dr Bunche.

17 Oct.—In the Negeb Israeli forces raided Arab positions, and aircraft attacked airfields at El Arish, in Sinai, and at Gaza, and Egyptian concentrations in the Majdal-Faluja area.

Jerusalem. There was severe fighting on Mt Zion.

Report of chairman of truce commission (*see Security Council*).

18 Oct.—The acting Mediator's representative asked Israel whether it was prepared to accept an immediate unconditional cease-fire for four days in the Negeb and meet Egyptian representatives in some neutral place for further discussions. The Israeli Government stated that it was willing to discuss with representatives of Egypt the means of settling peacefully difficulties regarding the Negeb. It refused to order a cease-fire, however, until proper guarantees had been received that the Egyptians would not reopen attacks on Jewish settlements.

Acting-Mediator's reports (*see Security Council*).

Israeli aircraft attacked Faliya, Gaza, El Arish, Beersheba, and Beit Jibrin.

19 Oct.—Israeli forces surrounded Gaza and Majdal. Motorized columns attacked Egyptian convoys between Beit Jibrin and Bethlehem. Israeli aircraft destroyed two Egyptian planes.

U.N. cease-fire order (*see Security Council*).

20 Oct.—Israel. The Government accepted in principle the Security Council's cease-fire order.

21 Oct.—*Israel*. The Government stated that they were prepared to to order a cease-fire in the Negeb after Egypt had also announced its readiness to obey the request of the Security Council and when they had been assured that the cease-fire would be observed by all Egyptian troops, including irregulars.

Israeli troops occupied Beersheba and the village of Beit Wettif. Aircraft bombed El Arish, Gaza, Majdal, and Beit Jibrin.

The acting Mediator ordered that the cease-fire should take effect as from noon (G.M.T.) 22 October.

POLAND. 9 Oct.—*Defence*. The Ministry of Recovered Territories was reported to have ordered priority to be given to all work connected with defence works in western Poland and the release from Army use of all transport stores and equipment not essential for the maintenance of the railway services.

Yugoslavia. It was learnt that a Note had been transmitted to the Yugoslav Government protesting against discrimination against Polish youths in Yugoslavia. Also that exports of coal to Yugoslavia had been reduced and would cease at the end of November, while imports from that country were being drastically cut down.

PORTUGAL. 14 Oct.—*Spain*. Sr Robles told the press in Lisbon that reports that he had retired from politics (*see p. 648*) were quite untrue.

17 Oct.—*Government Changes*. The Minister of National Economy, Sr Barbosa, resigned and was succeeded by Sr Castro Fernandes. Dr Mota Veiga became Under-Secretary of State for Corporations, and Sr Jardim and Sr Caldas Under-Secretaries of State for Commerce and Industry.

RUMANIA. 15 Oct.—Mr A. W. Evans (*see p. 647*) was sentenced to three years' imprisonment for fraudulent administration of money belonging to an oil company.

SAUDI ARABIA. 15 Oct.—*Palestine*. The Government recognized the Arab Government (*see p. 659*).

SCANDINAVIAN CONFERENCE. 15 Oct.—*Defence*. The Danish, Norwegian, and Swedish Ministers met in Oslo to carry out the Foreign Ministers' decision (*see p. 618*). They issued a statement stating that it had been decided that a committee with four members from each country should be constituted to start work immediately, and urged that the committee's task should be carried through 'as quickly as possible'.

SOUTH AFRICA. 12 Oct.—Statement by Mr Louw (*see Great Britain*).

21 Oct.—*South-West Africa*. The Prime Minister, Dr Malan, issued a statement saying that after conversations with the leaders of both the Nationalist and United parties in South-West Africa, broad agree-

ment on the closer integration of the territory with the Union had been reached. He stressed the fact that it was closer integration that was contemplated, and not incorporation. The main points of the agreement were the representation of the territory in the Union House of Assembly by six members elected on the same basis as the Union M.P.s and representation in the Upper House by two senators, one of whom would be appointed for his special knowledge of the needs of the non-European races in the territory. For the time being the Union and the territory would maintain their present separate systems of taxation, and while this held the territory's members would not be entitled to vote on taxation measures in the Union Parliament.

SPAIN. 8 Oct.—Comment on exiles' agreement (*see Great Britain*).

11 Oct.—Foreign Minister in Argentina (*see Argentina*).

14 Oct.—Gil Robles statement (*see Portugal*).

SWEDEN. 15 Oct.—Defence talks (*see Scandinavia Conference*).

SYRIA. 10 Oct.—The Government decided in agreement with the Lebanon that Syrian Jews living in the Lebanon and Lebanese Jews in Syria must return to their own countries, and that foreign Jews should be repatriated. Marriage with Jewesses was prohibited, and officials married to Jewesses were to be dismissed.

14 Oct.—*Palestine*. The Government recognized the Arab Government. (*see p. 659*).

UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

8 Oct.—The Assembly elected Cuba, Norway, and Egypt to the seats on the Security Council which would fall vacant on 31 December on the expiration of the two-year terms of Colombia, Belgium, and Syria. China, France, and Chile were re-elected, and Peru, Belgium, and India elected to the Economic and Social Council. The Assembly also unanimously adopted a draft protocol on narcotic drugs.

10 Oct.—*Palestine*. The Chief of Staff of the truce commission reported details of some fourteen breaches of the truce by both sides.

16 Oct.—The Polish and White Russian delegates asked that Dr Jan Papanek, the Czechoslovak delegate to the United Nations before the coup of February 1948, be removed from two U.N. technical committees as he had lost the confidence of his Government. Other countries took the view that since such men were elected to these committees because of their personal expert knowledge territorial considerations were irrelevant. The appointment of Dr Papanek was confirmed.

Economic, Social, and Cultural Committee.

15 Oct.—In a debate on a declaration of human rights Mr Mayhew (Britain) challenged the moral right of the U.S.S.R. to bring charges against the British colonial system. He said his Government were reminded of the millions who starved in the U.S.S.R. as the result of

the collectivization policy, and of the hunger and exhaustion imposed as a deliberate act of State policy on the armies of slave workers in the U.S.S.R. Charitable assumptions about Soviet conditions were false. It could no longer be denied that the U.S.S.R. was making use of large numbers of prisoners and forced labour in conditions which denied them the basic rights; that these human beings, once deprived of their liberty, were maintained in conditions of wretchedness and undernourishment; and that, under the cloak of arrest for crimes and other offences against the régime, the Soviet Government had acquired for itself a vast body of cheap labour utterly without rights. There was a terrible and overwhelming volume of evidence that great public works had largely been made possible by the creation of a vast class of slaves, made to work long hours, paid, if at all, only a fraction of the proper wage, and maintained as domestic animals.

16 Oct.—Mr Pavlov (U.S.S.R.) denied as a 'monstrous falsehood' the charges that millions of people in Russia were held in forced labour and concentration camps. He said it was regrettable that Mr Mayhew, who called himself a Socialist, should repeat the false charges made by traitors who had fled the U.S.S.R. Mr Kaminsky (White Russia) compared Mr Mayhew with Goebbels and said that 'in hatred and ignorance' he had poured mud on 200 million Soviet citizens.

20 Oct.—*Palestine*. Dr Bunche spoke on the Arab refugees whose number he reckoned at 472,000 (as against the earlier figure of 360,000), and said that unless adequate and effective aid came quickly the position would become desperate 'within a few weeks'. The deterioration was due to two factors. (1) The resources on which the refugees had been existing up to now—either their own or those of territories in which they are sheltering—were running dry; (2) 95,000 refugees were living under trees, without shelter of any kind and all these must be found shelter before the winter. The supplies of food already received or promised were enough to provide a 'very meagre supplement' for six weeks or more to the basic staples, provided the Arab Governments could continue to supply these. Once the received or promised supplies were exhausted no more aid was in sight.

Political Committee

9 Oct.—*Soviet Disarmament Proposal*. Sir Hartley Shawcross (Britain) said that the proposal would leave the Soviet armies greater than any other. The proposal was 'mere humbug'. According to reliable sources the 'vast' size of the Soviet forces was now two-and-a-quarter times what it was in 1939. Unless the gendarmerie and armed police were also reduced the 'police States' would be at an advantage. If anything at all were to be made of the Soviet proposal, it would be necessary to begin by exchanging detailed information, with verification later by inspection, on armies and armaments, a proposal made by Britain as long ago as September 1947. It was impossible for the Committee to reach any considered conclusion on the proposal until it received the report of the sub-committee which was seeking to draft a resolution on the three reports of the Atomic Energy Commission.

11 Oct.—The British delegation put forward a resolution calling on all nations, and especially the minority representatives on the Commission on Conventional Armaments, to co-operate in the creation of an atmosphere of international confidence and security which was necessary for any agreement on disarmament. It also endorsed the principle that any system of disarmament must include an adequate system of safeguards.

Mr Chevrier (Canada) commended the resolution as demonstrating that disarmament was possible without threat or danger to any State. He denounced the Soviet proposal as essentially meaningless, and said that Canada would not support any disarmament measures at the cost of insecurity to itself or other peace-loving nations. International inspection was essential. M. Parodi said the Soviet proposal was spectacular and over-simplified. If the Russians wanted general disarmament, let them give one proof, one sign, one glimpse of hope that they would bring a spirit of co-operation to the task.

12 Oct.—Mr Vyshinsky spoke of Russia's 'yearning' for co-operation, but said it must be co-operation on the basis of equality and not on the basis of dictation, bolstered up by some kind of superweapon. If the Assembly accepted the Soviet disarmament proposal the U.S.S.R., simultaneously with all other States, would submit information on its armed forces and armaments. But this must include all armaments, including atomic weapons. He added that Soviet military expenditure for 1948 was only 17.5 per cent of its total budgetary expenditure, compared with 52 per cent in 1944 and compared with 79 per cent by U.S.A. and 25 per cent by Britain for 1948.

The Syrian delegate suggested that the Security Council and the Commission for Conventional Armaments should continue to study the problem, and the Lebanese delegation that 1945 should be the basis of the proposed arms reduction. Mr James Thorn (New Zealand) considered that the best way to disarmament was that indicated in Article 43 of the Charter, which provided for forces to be made available to the Security Council by member nations. Col. Hodgson (Australia), introduced a draft resolution asking the Political Committee to appoint a sub-committee to examine the principles governing disarmament but not to consider atomic weapons. He regarded the British resolution as too negative. Mr Warren Austin (U.S.A.) supported the British resolution, and asked how there could be security so long as one Power blocked progress in all directions, refused to co-operate in the Security Council, and imposed a land blockade on Berlin? U.N. members could not disarm so long as Russia refused to become part of the international community to the extent of opening its doors to international inspection of armaments. The Soviet proposal to steer the whole thing into the Security Council with the veto as a trap door was an all-too-obvious manoeuvre.

13 Oct.—Sir Hartley Shawcross said comparisons of military budgets were misleading; would Mr Vyshinsky reveal what was the total number of effectives in the Soviet forces now? Four factors tended to destroy world confidence: Soviet propaganda; the iron curtain; the hidden

armies; the size of the Soviet forces. The iron curtain was not diminished by Mr Vyshinsky's allegations that it did not exist. Five whole Republics in Soviet Asia were now out of bounds. They embraced an area of not less than 1,497,000 square miles. On the west a belt from the Baltic Sea, 400 miles in depth, had similarly been made forbidden territory. Within the whole of the so-called free area tourists might not move at all. He added: 'You say you do not want war. It may well be so. History suggests that even Hitler did not want war as such. But do you want the fruits of war without fighting, and is that why concurrently with the maintenance of vast armies intended to hold the West in fear you are deploying in every country these secret forces, this fifth column?' One word could stop the world-wide activities of these fifth columns.

The Committee decided to set up a sub-committee to discuss the various draft resolutions on disarmament.

15 Oct.—*Palestine*. The acting Mediator, Dr Bunche, reporting to the Committee said two needs were uppermost: 'a reasonable basis' for assuming that neither Jews nor Arabs would again resort to force; the General Assembly to define its position on the following issues: peace in Palestine, the Jewish State and its boundaries and guarantees for those boundaries; the future status of Jerusalem; the disposition of Arab Palestine; guarantees for the rights of all the inhabitants of Palestine; repatriation of Arab refugees; and continued U.N. interest in the problem. Faris el Khoury (Syria) said Dr Bunche had said nothing of the atrocious acts of the Jews committed against the Arab population; over 300,000 had been massacred or expelled even while the Mandate lasted, and Great Britain had done nothing to protect these peaceful people. This was what had caused Arab intervention in Palestine.

18 Oct.—*Atomic Energy*. The Committee considered the report of its sub-committee, the majority of whom had recommended that, in view of the impasse reached by the Atomic Energy Commission, the six Powers sponsoring the majority proposals should attempt to seek a basis of agreement first.

Mr Warren Austin said the U.S.A. held firmly to the view that no further progress could be made at the level of the Commission until all members were agreed to accept the report approved by the General Assembly as the necessary basis for further work. As such acceptance was not forthcoming, the best and probably only hope of obtaining it was by consultation among the sponsoring Powers. 'The U.S.A. does not intend to give up its atomic weapons except under a system of control sufficiently effective to guarantee that other nations do not have and cannot secure these weapons.' Mr Malik said the majority plan would free the great U.S. atomic plants from any control and would leave a loophole for the retention of atomic weapons. Sir Alexander Cadogan said it was doubtful if the Atomic Energy Commission could profitably resume its work unless it did so on the basis of the views of the majority, without the Soviet delegation. This would solve nothing, since an agreement to which the U.S.S.R. was not a party would be valueless. Therefore, as a first step, the six sponsoring countries should try to get agreement on fundamental principles.

20 Oct.—The Committee rejected by a majority of 32 the Soviet resolution for simultaneous convention on prohibition of atomic weapons and control of atomic energy. The amended Canadian resolution was adopted by 41 votes to 6, with 10 abstentions. (This resolution proposed that the six sponsoring Powers of the General Assembly's resolution of January 1946 be asked to determine if there existed a basis for agreement on international control of atomic energy and prohibition of atomic weapons. It also asked the Assembly to call on the Atomic Energy Commission to resume its sessions, to survey its programme of work and to proceed to the further study of such of the subjects remaining in the programme of work as it considered to be practicable and useful.)

Trusteeship Committee

13 Oct.—*Non-Self-Governing Territories.* The Committee discussed the territories under Article 73 of the Charter. The Soviet delegate said that information transmitted by members was neither complete nor precise and tabled a resolution recommending that United Nations observers be sent to the territories each year to survey the situation. Speaking for Britain, Mr Adams of Barbados described Soviet criticism of British administration as unfounded and malicious. The Slav bloc was trying to rewrite the Charter and to introduce a structure of supervision and control that was not to be found there. They who lived in non-self-governing territories did not want it at all but wished to settle their differences directly and so remove the obstacles to complete self-government. The charge of economic exploitation could not be sustained. 'I can assure you that we in the British West Indies are not misled by these attacks'. The British Government were not required to transmit information on political or constitutional developments and did not intend to do so. None the less they made no secret of the great constitutional progress made in colonial territories, especially since the war, and those interested would find accounts of it in documents transmitted to the United Nations. In the colonial Empire they were far from believing that their present system of government was perfect, but they did not look upon the British Government as a ruthless exploiter. Even when they were most critical they did not forget that the central purpose of British colonial policy was to guide the dependent territories to responsible self-government, and they were convinced of British good faith. Replying to attacks on the groundnuts scheme, he said that it was a courageous experiment to bring under cultivation 5,000 square miles of virgin bushland. Far from expropriating the Africans, they were making a concerted attack on tsetse-infested spawn, trying out methods and machinery, and tackling the immense task of educating some 60,000 permanently settled Africans. Moreover, it was intended eventually to transfer the undertaking to the African territories themselves.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

16 Oct.—The conference on safety regulations in industry, attended

by twenty-five countries, including eastern European States, ended in Geneva and a model code of regulations to be recommended to all member States was unanimously adopted.

SECURITY COUNCIL

12 Oct.—*Berlin*. The president, Dr Bramuglia, conferred with the six 'neutral' members of the Council.

13 Oct.—*Berlin*. Dr Bramuglia received Mr Vyshinsky and later saw western representatives.

14 Oct.—*Palestine*. The Council examined reports from the truce commission, amplified by a long statement by Dr Bunche, the acting Mediator, on investigations into the murder of Count Bernadotte and the growing difficulties encountered by observers in discharging their task of supervision.

Sir Alexander Cadogan said they were told by the truce commission there was a deliberate campaign, led by Dr Joseph, the military governor in Jerusalem, to discredit the United Nations in the eyes of the Jewish community, a campaign that resembled the animosity raised against Count Bernadotte. Dr Bunche had told them that the authority, prestige, and personal safety of observers were imperilled, that both Arabs and Jews were placing obstacles in the way of their mission. Disregard for the authority of the United Nations found most serious expression in acts of violence. Six of its representatives had lost their lives and seven others had been wounded. Groups in Palestine were seeking to eliminate the influence of the United Nations altogether and it was for the Security Council to arrest the process.

Mr Eban (Israel), said that terrorist activities in Palestine were part of the heritage from British rule, and declared that recent violations of the truce operated entirely to Arab military advantage. The Stern gang had been effectively broken up, and though irresponsible individuals were still at large they could say for the first time that the days of organized terrorism were over. He denied that Dr Joseph had done anything to discredit the truce commission, stating that an unfortunate attempt was being made to ridicule Jewish authority in Jerusalem.

Faris Bey al Khoury (Syria) asked why access to ports was being denied to U.N. observers. Dr Bunche knew that the Jews were gaining formidable advantages from the truce by the incessant smuggling of arms and aircraft. There was not a country in Europe or America that was permitted to export arms to Arab States, but the Jews, with hundreds of millions of dollars collected from the people of America, were placing orders for armaments in eastern and central Europe and getting arms direct from the U.S.A. Observers in Palestine knew these things but, he stated, under the instructions of the Council and the truce agreement, could do nothing to stop them.

Britain, supported by China, put forward a resolution asking Israel to report on the progress of the enquiry into the assassinations of U.N. officials.

15 Oct.—*Berlin*. Gen. McNaughton (Canada) said that the informal talks in which the six 'neutral' States had earlier been engaged had as

their purpose the gathering of fuller information on the points of view of the parties to the dispute. He said he must emphasize that they had not been concerned with producing any offer of mediation or with approving resolutions, of whatever character, to be placed before the Council. They recognized that it was the duty of the Council to reach conclusions and make appropriate decisions, for they were carrying on this debate 'under the shadow of violence'.

Dr Bramuglia asked the four Powers concerned for explanations on: (1) the initial imposition of restrictions on communications between Berlin and the western Zones; (2) the details of such impositions; and (3) the present state of the restrictions. His second question called for information on the accord reached in Moscow leading to instructions to the four Military Governors in Berlin, and on the reasons that prevented these instructions from being implemented.

Mr Vyshinsky said the Soviet delegation adhered to its decision not to take part in the Council's discussion of Berlin. The questions put by the president were dictated by nothing but a desire to drag them into the discussion on Berlin. 'You ask questions and attempt to get replies, and thus put the Soviet delegation into the position of embarking upon consideration of them. This is a very original and skilled step—it is naive at the same time. It is useless to think we will bite this bait.' Everything should be clear from the documents published all over the world, and it was incumbent upon the Council to study them. To count on the Soviet delegation submitting any explanations would be an illusory hope, because they would take no part in the discussions.

17 Oct.—*Palestine*. The chairman of the Truce Commission in a report stated that, in spite of repeated warnings to the command of the Arab Legion and the Transjordan Government, Arab forces continued to fire indiscriminately and sometimes deliberately at foreign consulates and at the U.N. headquarters in Jerusalem. Twenty-one persons had been wounded, three of them seriously, at the French Consulate-General, the seat of the Commission.

18 Oct.—*Palestine*. The acting Mediator, Dr Bunche, in a report to the Council, stated that it would seem clear that the recent fighting in the Negeb had been on a scale which could only be undertaken after considerable preparation and could scarcely be explained as simple retaliatory action for an attack on a convoy. It was largely due to the failure of both sides to accept the decision of the central truce supervision board regarding the passing of supply convoys from the Karatiya area. In the letter dated 8 October from Israel to the Secretary-General, reference was omitted to a vital part of the board's decision. This was that the decision precluded Israel from supplying its forces in outlying settlements by air except in the case of settlements without road communications, and then only under U.N. supervision. The Egyptian Government had refused to permit Israeli convoys to pass until the supply of Jewish settlements by air was stopped. Israel refused to stop the aerial convoys or submit them to U.N. supervision until the Egyptians permitted the land convoys through.

19 Oct.—*Palestine*. Dr Bunche said that Egypt had accepted his

earlier appeal for a temporary unconditional cease-fire, on the sole condition that it be accepted by Israel, but that the Israeli reply amounted to a rejection, since it offered to negotiate but ignored the cease-fire request. The Council decided unanimously to order an immediate and effective cease-fire in the Negeb.

Berlin.—Sir Alexander Cadogan, replying to Dr Bramuglia's first question, said that the Soviet Government had unilaterally imposed restrictions upon communications between the western Zones of occupation in Germany and Berlin. This action was illegal, contrary to the U.N. Charter, contrary to the obligations of the Soviet Government as a joint occupying Power in Germany, and designed to extract by pressure concessions which could not be won by negotiations from the western Powers; and it was a threat to the peace. The investigations conducted by the president must have convinced all members of the Council, if they were not already aware of it, of the gravity of the situation. In the first place, this blockade, which Mr Vyshinsky could hardly hope to convince any one did not exist, meant that an attempt was being made forcibly to prevent the three other occupying Powers from exercising their legitimate rights as an occupying Power in Berlin. Secondly, the threat of force which was constituted by this blockade had now existed for more than six months, which meant that for that time the U.S.S.R., a signatory of the U.N. Charter, had been resorting to the threat of force. Thirdly, it was now abundantly clear that it was the continuance of the blockade which prevented resumption of four-Power negotiations on German questions. Speaking of the imposition of restrictions by the Russians, he said that four points stood out: (1) the great variety of restrictions imposed between March and July, thus constituting a planned and insidious attempt to hinder the western Powers in the discharge of their duties in Berlin; (2) the variety and inconsistency of the reasons given by the Russians for their actions; (3) the manifest insincerity and hollowness of these reasons; (4) the unilateral manner in which the Russians had imposed the restrictions. Such restrictions began long before currency reform took place in Germany, and their true object was to make untenable the position of the three western occupying Powers. He said that since his speech had been prepared fresh news had come of further Soviet restrictions in Berlin, designed to prevent any food from the Soviet Zone reaching the western areas of Berlin.

Dr Jessup, replying to the second question, said Mr Vyshinsky had maintained that there was no blockade. That would be disputed by the 2,500,000 inhabitants of western Berlin—'the island city of Berlin'—who had been faced with the choice of accepting hardships or accepting 'Soviet political food and political coal, and hence Soviet and Communist political domination'. From the start their choice had been clear; they had chosen hardship and freedom, and this was a hopeful sign for the future peace and security of Europe. He traced the course of western-Soviet negotiations from 6 July when the three western Governments sent their first Notes to Moscow, and quoted from the U.S. White Paper to show that Mr Bedell Smith had said, in the name

of the three Governments, to Mr Stalin, when he told him that 'free negotiations can only take place in an atmosphere relieved of pressure'. At the time, Mr Stalin had seemed to meet the western point of view, and the directive to the Commanders-in-Chief in Berlin, finally agreed on 30 August, both satisfied the Soviet Government and was consistent with the maintenance of western rights in Berlin. No unresolved issues of substance seemed to be outstanding on 30 August. But when, on the basis of the directive, the negotiations were taken up in Berlin, Marshal Sokolovsky departed from the agreement on three fundamental matters of principle. (1) the control of the air corridors to the west; (2) control of trade with the west and (3) financial control. Upon this, the western Governments decided to go back to Moscow and seek unequivocal answers on the three questions. The result was unsatisfactory; there was no simple affirmation of the agreed principles of the 30 August directive, and no assurance that Marshal Sokolovsky would be instructed to follow the directive. 'We discovered that the talks we were holding were serving as an excuse to prolong the blockade rather than as a method of removing it.' He described the last exchanges between Moscow and the west, with a reminder that although the Soviet Government, in its Note of 25 September, implied that the air corridors might be used for commercial freight and passengers, it insisted on Soviet control over such transport.

The question asked now was why the Berlin dispute was not settled on the basis of the 30 August directive; or, put differently, why the threat to peace continued after the Military Governors had finished their conversations, and why it continued after the western Powers had explained to Moscow where Marshal Sokolovsky had departed from the directive. 'The simple and direct answer to the question is that the threat to peace did not end then because it was the Soviet blockade measures which caused the threat to the peace and the Soviet Government refused to lift the blockade. The Soviet Government created the threat to the peace, and the Soviet Government can remove it.'

M. Parodi reminded the Council that the first blockade measures were taken before currency reform was introduced into the western zones, and that if the U.S.S.R. really wanted a meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers—and France had declared itself ready to participate in one immediately the blockade was lifted—it had had ten months since the last meeting to propose it. The western Powers had tried sincerely to seek agreement over Berlin and would have succeeded if Soviet good will had been equal to theirs.

20 Oct.—*Berlin*. Dr Bramuglia saw M. Parodi.

U.S.A. 9 Oct.—Mr Marshall arrived from Paris and was received by President Truman. The President later issued a statement saying that during the past week he had considered sending Chief Justice Vinson to Moscow to discuss directly with Soviet leaders the atomic problem. Mr Marshall had since described to him the possibilities of misunderstanding to which any such unilateral action might lead, and he had decided against the idea.

13 Oct.—*Pilgrims' Dinner*. The British Ambassador, Sir Oliver Franks, speaking at the dinner, said: 'The country which I have the high honour to represent among you is full of life and vigour, stripped and disciplined in a mighty effort . . . It is a time of change, of construction, of new beginnings.' He added that the 'good state of Anglo-American relations is the sheet anchor which prevents not only us but many others from drifting into turbulent seas.'

15 Oct.—*Korea*. The President, Dr Rhee, who was in Washington, announced that the National Assembly of the Southern Korean Republic had voted by 68 to 10 to withhold a motion that foreign troops should be withdrawn.

16 Oct.—*Defence*. President Truman asked the Secretary of Defence to take immediate steps to build up reserves and start a vigorous and progressive training programme. The order was later described as 'routine', as the Army and Air Force were behind with their programmes.

17 Oct.—Mr Marshall in Athens (*see Greece*).

18 Oct.—Mr Marshall in Rome (*see Italy*).

21 Oct.—*Germany*. The U.S. Military Governor, Gen. Clay, told the press in Washington that to the best of his information there was a very large Communist-dominated police force in eastern Germany—probably 200,000 to 300,000 strong—which was being enlarged every day. In contrast, the western Powers allowed only a very small police force in western Germany, and he did not believe that this should be increased in size. Speaking later at a dinner in New York he said that the Soviet Government had deliberately picked Berlin as the place to apply pressure to check the political and economic recovery of the free countries of Europe. The Soviet Government now recognized that 'Communism had reached its high tide and was receding', and they concluded that 'only by fear could this recession be stopped. The logical place to apply fear was in Berlin. If the allies could be forced from it then indeed the impression would be created that they could be forced out elsewhere'.

U.S.S.R. 11 Oct.—*Travel Restrictions*. The Government, in further explanation of the restrictions (*see p. 686*), pointed out that diplomats might move freely only within a radius of thirty miles of Moscow, but they could travel to more distant 'free' areas if notice was given to the Foreign Ministry and Intourist could arrange transport and accommodation. (Vast areas were still forbidden to foreign travellers, and among the cities they might not visit were the capitals of the Ukraine and White Russia.)

WESTERN UNION. 17 Oct.—*Economic Co-operation*. The Finance Ministers of the five countries met in Paris.

YUGOSLAVIA. 9 Oct.—Protest and reduction of trade (*see Poland*).

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Oct. — Meeting of British Empire Parliamentary Union, London.
- " 22 I.T.U. International Conference on High Frequency Broad-
 casting, Mexico City.
- Nov. 2 Presidential Elections in the U.S.A.
- " 2 Congress of Representatives of Capital Cities of the World,
 Paris.
- " 15 F.A.O. Annual Conference, Washington.
- " 15 WHO Conference on Health in War Ravaged Countries of
 Europe, Geneva.
- " 15 General Election in the Sudan.
- " 23 I.C.A.O. South East Asia Regional Meeting, New Delhi.
- " 29 U.N. Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,
 Glenbrook, Australia.
- Dec. — World Federation of Trade Unions, Brussels.
- " 1 West Indian Conference, Guadeloupe.
- " 3 General Election in Barbados.
- 1949
- Feb. 2 Royal Society of New Zealand: Pacific Science Congress,
 Auckland and Christchurch.
- " 7 U.N. Economic and Social Council, Lake Success.
- Feb. 10 UNESCO General Conference, Beirut.
- Mar. 21 U.N. Economic Commission for Europe, Geneva.
- " 28 Inter-American Economic Conference, Buenos Aires.
- April — General Election in Burma.
- " 4 Tariff negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs
 and Trade, Geneva.
- May — Conference on the conservation and utilization of the world's
 resources, Lake Success.
- June 8 I.L.O. Conference, Geneva.